



I'm Just a \$100 Bill: Full Transcript

**GFX Cards

(01:00:00:00) - START CARD

** (01:00:05:12) - Intro Question - *Why are elections so expensive?*

(01:00:11:21) BOY: I know how a bill becomes a law but how do the people who pass laws get elected in the first place?

[Next to him we see BILL, a hundred dollar bill, looking depressed.]

(01:00:19:06) BILL: I'm just a bill, a hundred dollar bill, and influence the election I will.

[We zoom from the Capitol over to a mansion, and then we cut inside where we see Bill on the desk in a cigar smoking RICH GUY's office. The Rich Guy picks up Bill and smiles, blowing smoke in Bill's face. Bill coughs, and the cough causes him to fly up into the air...]

(01:00:25:14) BILL: Well, it's a long, long story, how us humble little banknotes, are just pawns, pawns, pawns, used by millionaires to buy votes.

[...transition to a TV screen showing a flag pin wearing POLITICIAN in a campaign ad. Bill floats down and lands in his jacket pocket.]

(01:00:34:12) BILL: So if you're mad at ads you see on TV...

[Back to the Bill and the Boy on the Capitol steps.]

(01:00:38:05) BILL: Don't blame me! I'm just the messenger!

(01:00:41:06) BOY: Then why are you so sad?

(01:00:42:13) BILL: ...'Cause democracy's [bleep]ed!

(01:00:44:21) BILL: See, I'm at the center of debate, 'cause the people were irate, at all the massive contributions, and what was the solution?

[We cut to the Supreme Court justices. One slams down a gavel labeled "CITIZENS UNITED – January 21, 2010", smashing the BCRA banner in two.]

(01:00:53:00) BILL: The Supreme Court let special interests give all the money they want! That's

where big bills like me came in!

(01:00:58:20) BILL: See, the Court ruled that money is free speech. So you can feel free to spend all you want on political action groups that help any candidate indirectly. Those are called "Super PACs."

(01:01:08:23) BOY: Super PACs? Are they superheroes like Superman?

(01:01:11:19) BILL: Not at all! But sort of!

[Bill and the Boy are in a file room at "the IR\$," filled with sheets of TAX RETURNS. An exhausted ACCOUNTANT wearing a banker's cap sorts through the musing spectacles and then he falls asleep. Bill Pulls a sheet of paper up to the Accountant's chin like a BLANKET.]

(01:01:13:11) BILL: Only their superpower is putting you to sleep if you try to find out who funded them!

[Bill and the Boy are back on the steps.]

(01:01:19:06) BILL: I'm just a bill, a super secret bill, filled with mysteries ...

(01:01:23:03) BOY: Hold on!

[Needle Scratch. The music STOPS.]

(01:01:24:03) BOY: What the heck?! So rich people have more "free speech" than the rest of us? Did the Founding Fathers know about this?

(01:01:29:20) BILL: Why don't you ask them yourself?

[Wider: we see the Washington Monument, Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials.]

(01:01:31:13) BOY: But all I see are their monuments.

(01:01:33:05) BILL: No, silly. They're right in your pocket!

[Bill pulls out his wallet, then pulls out several other bills, and the Founding Fathers of the wave hello. A ten dollar bill in front [HAMILTON] picks up a MIC and begins a rap battle.]

(01:01:35:03) HAMILTON: Yo! It's me, it's Hamilton, now let me ramble on and tell you 'bout the currency I'm currently plastered on. It's a disaster, son!

(01:01:41:20) HAMILTON: The donors are the owners. And even I didn't bank on who'd land the

loaners. The system has no compunction! We're talkin' serious... electile... dysfunction.

[Boom! Hamilton drops the mic, bows, and all the other dollar bills give him a standing ovation and walk off.]

(01:01:52:11) BOY: Wow. I never imagined politics was so dirty.

(01:01:55:13) BILL: And I should know. I'm covered in 3,000 types of bacteria! And so are these guys!

[Dozens of OTHER BILLS, in smaller denominations, show up. One of the other bills steps forward. Could it be?!...]

(01:02:01:11) HARRIET TUBMAN: I'm just a bill, I just got put on a bill, and now I'm hanging here with those other bills! You know, I'm gonna stop singing now.

[speaking]

(01:02:10:18) HARRIET TUBMAN: Hey there little boy. Harriet Tubman here. And I know you're never going to get money completely out of politics. They go together like public speeches and pandering – and boy are you guys handsome!

(01:02:22:06) BILL/BOY: Well, that's nice of you to / Gee, thanks!— [beat] Wait! / Hey!!

(01:02:25:06) HARRIET TUBMAN: But we can demand to know who's funding the candidates!

[CAPITAL turns into the Capital on back of a NICKEL.]

(01:02:28:04) HARRIET TUBMAN: Or maybe government can fund campaigns! Until then, we always have a right to ignore the expensive ads. And heck, if enough people give small donations,

[ZOOM IN ON NICKEL: "E pluribus unum – out of many, we've won!"] (*graphic has "out of many, one" and then they x out "one" and write "we've won"*)

(01:02:37:06) HARRIET TUBMAN: We the voters can still have a voice!

(01:02:40:03) BOY: Makes sense, but it isn't as catchy as what that other bill was saying.

(01:02:43:22) HARRIET TUBMAN: Fine, we'll sing it.

(The other Bills join together and sing in choir like harmony. They join hands and walk forward, as a rainbow appears behind them...)

(01:02:46:13) PRESIDENT BILLS: What's done can't be undid, but if candidates are fairly funded, we're more powerful than a measly hundred.

(01:02:57:11) BOY: Hunh, well, I'm inspired! And putting all that money together for something awesome has given me a great idea!

[The grabs all the cash and runs off, as they shout, "Wait!," "What are you doing!". LONGBEAT. Where'd he go?]

[STILL NOTHING. Until: The Boy reappears, riding one of those dumb "hoverboards" across the screen. He holds a SIGN as he zooms by: "BOY FOR SENATE". Cheers.]

END